**What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.** View this email in your browser

**Newsletter #58:**

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Spring is slowly starting to show it is on the way, at least here in Chicago. I've heard from friends abroad that Europe is experiencing a rather severe cold and wintery spell. In fact, pictures I saw of Venice showed snow! That never happens. In any case, in the world of coins it was business as usual. A last minute change of plans kept me in Chicago and not traveling to Germany as I expected to so I'm writing this newsletter from home versus in Germany. I will be traveling in one month to the UK to bid live in the Roma auction and also to hopefully view the May NAC sale.

*Here is what is upcoming:*
**Numismatik Naumann Auction 63 (March 4)**

Naumann has regularly scheduled auctions that offer largely budget coins with no pedigrees. This is not the case with the upcoming auction of 1,302 coins. The first 496 coins are from the P. Vogl collection of Cilician coins. There are pedigrees for many coins going back several years. Not everything is in pristine condition but you can see that a lot of work went into purchasing these coins. It might be worth a peek. Other than the P. Vogl collection there are plenty of other interesting pieces on offer at very reasonable prices. It is true that certain pieces get bid up substantially from their opening prices, but there is undoubtedly something for everyone in this auction at all price points. I plan to participate so let me know if you want to bid soon.

**Gorny & Mosch Live Auction 253 and 254 (March 5-6)**

No, I will not be bidding in the room at the G&M auction scheduled for this coming week but yes, I will be bidding in real time. There are 1,600+ coins over the course of two days ranging from ancients to world coins. I am available for bidding in either auction so please contact me if you are interested.

**Savoca Auction 21 (March 11)**

As with Naumann, Savoca runs regular auctions with some very affordable material. Most do not have pedigrees. This upcoming auction has some interesting pieces and is worth a peek. My experience with them so far has been very good. You can see their auction on Sixbid or Numisbids.

**Naville Numismatics 38 (March 11)**

Naville, the e-auction arm of NAC, always has lower grade but extremely interesting material on offer. The last auctions have included large groups of Ex-Clain Stefanelli or Ex Dattari Collection. This is no different. This auction has 904 lots and is worth your time. I typically participate so get in touch if you need my help.

**Chicago Coin Expo Trade Show (April 18-21 in downtown Chicago)**

The location has changed from the impressive Chicago Cultural Center but the show remains in downtown Chicago versus being out by O'Hare airport in dreary Rosemont. I don't know about you but if you travel to a great city like New York or Chicago the last thing you need is to be stuck out in the middle of nowhere when you have free time. True, you can take a cab into the city after the show but who the heck wants to spend $50 on a cab when you could have the action right at your doorstep.

This year's show is at the Palmer House Hotel. Another great location, close to the Art Institute, State Street and the Mag Mile. If you travel with anyone that isn't interested in being sequestered at the show the entire time you will not be disappointed. If you visit the show website at https://www.coinexpo.org/ you can obtain early bird tickets at a slightly discounted rate. The show itself is not expensive at $10 for adults and $5 for children. Please come to visit the show if you live anywhere close to Chicago or feel like a weekend getaway. It should be a fun weekend and anyone that receives this newsletter and comes in for the show please do let me know. I would love to get together after the show in our exciting city!

**Upcoming London Trip (April 2-6)**

I will be in London for viewing and bidding live in the Roma auction (takes place on April 5), as well as previewing the May NAC auction in Zurich. I will be getting 10 hard copies of the Roma catalog as soon as they are done at the presses. If you want one please contact me. If I don't hear from you and you have bid with me before then I may just throw one in the mail to you so keep an eye out. For those of you that want a preview here is a link to their online virtual catalog. My representation services make a lot of sense for anyone interested in this auction. If you have interest than please get in touch for details.

**Coin of the Week** **http://www.shannaschmidt.com/coin-of-the-week/**

**Pontic Kingdom. Mithradates VI. 120-63 BC.**
Dated Pontic Era Year 212, month 7 (April 85 BC).
AR Tetradrachm, 16.51g (31mm, 1h). Diademed head of Mithradates right, long hair arranged with three loose curls down cheek and neck / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΜΙΘΡΑΔΑΤΟΥ ΕΥΠΑΤΟΡΟΣ, Pegasus standing on ground line to left, foreleg raised and head lowered preparing to drink, star within crescent to left, date ΒΙΣ (year) and monogram to right; Z (month) below; all within ivy wreath.

***Pedigree: Ex Triton VII (12 January 2004), lot 218; NFA XXX (8 December 1992), lot 76***
***Price: $12,500***

*Mithradates VI lived during a time when there was rapidly diminishing power among the Greeks and inversely a rise in power of the Roman Republic. Mithradates was loyal to no one and was considered to be a ruthless and savvy ruler. An example of his brutality, his mother Laodice, served as regent for her son when he was no yet of an age to rule. When he was twenty years old and after she had ruled for 9 years, he had her killed so he could take the throne for himself.*

*During his reign he was able to add the entire southern, eastern and northern shores of Asia Minor to his territory. In 105 BC he allied with Nicomedes of Bithynia to attempt to overtake Paphlagonia, Galatia and Cappadocia. Despite success, he and Nicomedes came to loggerheads over the spoils with Rome intervening in the end and helping Paphlagonia and Cappadocia to recoup their territory. This angered Mithridates and from that time forward he was at war with Rome.*

*Mithradates took advantage of the preoccupation of the civil wars in Rome to drive Nicomedes out of Bithynia. Rome restored him a few years later. When Nicomedes again attempted to retaliate against Mithridates and secure some of his land, this angered Mithradates to the point that he massacred 80,000 Romans and Latins. This prompted the generals Sulla, Lucullus and finally Pompey the Great to be thrust into battle against Mithradates.*

*By 66 BC, Mithradates was finally defeated by the Romans and in response fled to the Panticapaeum in the Bosporus to raise a new army. Although his plans never truly came to fruition as everyone was tired of war, even his own son, Pharnaces rebelled against him. In despair Mithradates committed suicide in 63 BC. Cicero said that Mithradates was the greatest of all kings after the death of Alexander.*

***References: De Callataÿ pg. 16, D67/R1. Cf. Waddington, RG pg. 17. Cf. BMC Pontus pg. 44, 3. SNG von Aulock 6679 (same dies)***

***Grade: Phenomenal strike with some minor surface scrapes. A touch of double striking on the reverse. Removed from an slab where graded NGC Choice AU★ 4/5 - 4/5, Fine Style***
gk1192

If you are interested in this coin please email shanna@shannaschmidt.com

If you are interested in any other coins I have available please visit my website www.shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
*Shanna*

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